

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 12 and 14-15 are amended. No new matter is added.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner El-chanti during the telephone conference held June 1, 2005, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview. Specifically, claims 4 and 14 are amended to comply with the Examiner's helpful suggestions made during the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 and 12-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,636,888 to Bookspan et al. ("Bookspan"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a system that supports a document-centered discussion among heterogeneous display devices comprising view information that includes a context identifier that identifies a portion of the document according to a location of the portion within the document. Bookspan does not disclose, teach or suggest this feature.

At column 10, lines 1-65, Bookspan discloses storing the location of the presentation broadcast file. At column 8, lines 15-30, Bookspan further discloses a description field which may contain information informing a user about the subject/overview and/or agenda of the presentation. However, Bookspan fails to disclose a context identifier that identifies a location in a document of a portion of the document currently being viewed by a user, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, because Bookspan does not disclose, teach or suggest each and every feature recited in claim 1, the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is improper. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that independent claim 1 is patentable over Bookspan.

Claim 4 recites a method for supporting document-centered discussions, comprising updating invitee specific view information based upon the specific invitee's current focus of attention with regard to the document being discussed, wherein the current focus of each of the at least one invitee may be different from a current focus of an inviter. Bookspan fails to disclose, teach or suggest this feature.

Bookspan discloses a presentation system having a presenter who presents a presentation broadcast to a group of users. Applicants respectfully submit that Bookspan implicitly teaches all viewers focusing on the same portion of the broadcast as presented by the presenter and fails to disclose, teach or suggest updating invitee specific information based on the specific invitee's current focus, as recited in claim 4.

As agreed during the telephone interview, Bookspan fails to disclose, teach or suggest an invitee having a current focus different than the current focus of the presenter. Claim 4 incorporates this difference suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 4 is patentable over Bookspan.

Similar to method claim 4, apparatus claim 14, recites a context identifier that includes at least one of information which identifies a portion of the document on which an invitee is focusing and information which identifies a portion of the document on which an inviter is focusing, wherein the portion of the document on which an inviter is focusing may be different than the portion of the document on which an invitee is focusing.

Based upon the argument presented above in regard to claim 4, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 14 is likewise patentable over Bookspan.

Claims 2-3, 5-6, 12-13 and 15-20 depend variously from claims 1 and 4 and are likewise patentable over Bookspan at least for their dependency, as well as for additional features they recite.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6 and 12-20 over Bookspan is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Bookspan in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,848,415 to Guck. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

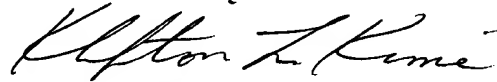
Claims 9-11 depend from claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that, as discussed above, independent claim 1 is patentable over Bookspan. The content server of Guck likewise fails to disclose a system for supporting document-centered discussions including a context identifier that identifies a portion of the document according to a location of the portion of the document within the document, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Bookspan in view of Guck fails to disclose, teach or suggest all the features recited in claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Bookspan in view of Guck, and claims 9-11 are likewise patentable over the applied references at least in view of their dependence on claim 1, as well as for additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection over Bookspan in view of Guck is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-6, 9-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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